United Nations E/C.20/2014/4

Economic and Social Council

Distr.: General
27 May 2014

Original: English

Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management
Fourth session
New York, 6-8 August 2014
Item 4 of the provisional agenda*
Determination of global fundamental geospatial data themes

Determination of global fundamental geospatial data themes

Note by the Secretariat

The Secretariat has the honour to bring to the attention of the Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management its report on determining global fundamental geospatial data themes, which is available in the language of submission only from the website of the Committee of Experts (http://ggim.un.org/ggim_committee.html). The Committee of Experts is invited to take note of the report and to express its views on the way forward in addressing the issues relating to global fundamental geospatial data themes.

Summary of the report

At its second session, held in August 2012, the Committee of Experts considered an inventory of issues gathered by Member States that should be addressed in the coming years. Among the key issues was that of agreement to and implementation of core global reference data sets by specific themes. It was considered that a continuing gap in the successful unification of a national, regional and global geospatial information management capability is the lack of an agreed set of readily available and authoritative global reference data sets by specific themes. In furtherance of the topic, the second High-level Forum on Global Geospatial Information Management, held in Doha from 4 to 6 February 2013, dedicated a session to challenges in developing core global reference data sets. The Doha Declaration on Advancing Global Geospatial Information Management, the outcome document of the Forum, affirmed the importance of an agreed set of authoritative core global reference data sets that are needed to support global sustainable development activities and to work jointly towards the preparation, improvement and maintenance of these core global reference data sets.

* E/C.20/2014/1.

14-53819 (E) 300514

Please recycle

The report describes the background to and the need for global fundamental geospatial data themes and provides national and regional examples that help to inform and guide the way forward.